Air Hostesses in Air India

*611. SHRI VEDPRAKASH P. GOYAL:

SHRI SHATRUGHANA SINHA:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether two autonomous bodies working as Government of India Enterprises can make separate rules for their employees which deny the Citizens of India the Fundamental Right to Equality;

(b) if not, the reasons for the discrimination being made by Air India to its Air Hostesses by denying them equal status with their counterparts in Indian Airlines and even the male staff of Air India itself with regard to the flying worthiness; and

(c) what steps are proposed to be taken to give them justice?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV): (a) Both Air India and Indian Airlines are autonomous companies that are free to determine the service regulations of their employees in accordance with their commercial requirements. Broadly, Indian Airlines operates on domestic sectors and on some short haul international sectors, whereas Air India generally operates on the long-haul major international routes. The requirements of both the airlines are determined by the practices on their respective routes.

(b) There is no discrimination in the age of retirement of Air Hostesses of Air India and Indian Airlines. Both the Male and Female Cabin Crew of Air India retire at the age of 58 years. However, the functions & cadres of male and female cabin crew in Air India are different.

(c) Does not airse.

Financial assistance for construction of Resorts at Hampi

*612. SHRI K. C. KONDAIAH: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Karnataka Government has sought financial assistance during 1999-2000 for the construction of Jungle Lodges and Resorts at Hampi (Kamalpur) in Karnataka;

(b) if so, the amount of financial assistance sought for;